

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 054881

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ORIGIN ARA-03

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TO USSOUTHCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054881

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 054881 (DTG 060122Z MAR 76) ACTION ASUNCION
BOGOTA BRASILIA BUENOS AIRES CARACAS GUATEMALA LA PAZ
LIMA MANAGUA MEXICO MONTEVIDEO PANAMA PORT AU PRINCE QUITO
SAN JOSE SAN SALVADOR SANTIAGO SANTO DOMINGO TEGUCIGALPA

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054881

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI

SUBJECT: FY 1976 SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION: MAP
AND MILGPS

1. ON MARCH 3 THE HOUSE TOOK UP ON THE FLOOR THE
HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE
FY 1976 SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL (H.R. 11963). WITH MINOR
AMENDMENTS, THE COMMITTEE REPORT WAS ADOPTED BY A 240 TO
169 VOTE. SECTION 515 (B) (1) OF THIS BILL STATES: "AFTER
SEPTEMBER 30, 1977, NO MILITARY ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP,
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PAGE 02 STATE 054881

MILITARY MISSION, OR OTHER ORGANIZATION OF UNITED STATES

MILITARY PERSONNEL PERFORMING SIMILAR MILITARY ADVISORY FUNCTIONS UNDER THIS ACT MAY OPERATE IN ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY UNLESS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY THE CONGRESS".

2. PARAGRAPH 2 OF THAT SECTION ADDS THAT AFTER SEPTEMBER 30, 1977, THE PRESIDENT MAY ASSIGN NOT MORE THAN THREE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO THE CHIEF OF EACH U.S. DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO PERFORM SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNCTIONS AND THAT SUCH FUNCTIONS OR RELATED ACTIVITIES SHALL NOT BE PERFORMED BY DEFENSE ATTACHES.

3. SECTION 516 OF H.R. 11963 WOULD TERMINATE MAP ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1977, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS.

4. MAP TRAINING HAS BEEN SEPARATED FROM MAP MATERIEL IN H.R. 19963 AND WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE ABOVE.

5. THE SENATE VERSION WHICH PASSED BY A 60-30 FLOOR VOTE ON FEBRUARY 20 CONTAINS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME LANGUAGE PERMITTING CONTINUATION OF MAP AND MILGPS AFTER FY 1977 ONLY IF SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS. THE SENATE VERSION, HOWEVER, WOULD LIMIT THE NUMBER OF MILGPS WORLD-WIDE TO 34 AND THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ASSIGNED TO THOSE 34 MISSIONS TO 1400, BOTH PROVISIONS EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 1976.

6. A PHASEOUT OF BOTH MAP AND MILGPS UNLESS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS THUS SEEMS ASSURED. ALTHOUGH THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE PRESIDENT MAY VETO THIS LEGISLATION IF CERTAIN OF THE MORE OBJECTIONABLE PROVISIONS ARE NOT ELIMINATED IN CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK, THE PROSPECTS OF THIS COURSE OF ACTION ARE NOT REPEAT NOT LIKELY. IN ANY EVENT, THE ADMINISTRATION HAS DETERMINED NOT REPEAT NOT TO CONTEST THE PHASEOUT OF MAP AND MILGPS LANGUAGE AS CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE LEGISLATION.

7. THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS LEGISLATION FOR ARA ARE CLEAR. DURING THE COMING MONTHS, WE WILL BE TAKING A HARD LOOK AT OUR MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE REGION IN AN EFFORT TO
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PAGE 03 STATE 054881

DETERMINE THE NEW ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE US MILITARY THERE IN LIGHT OF CURRENT POLITICAL REALITIES IN BOTH THE US AND LATIN AMERICA. AFTER FY 1977, WE WILL HAVE TO PROVIDE CONGRESS WITH COMPELLING JUSTIFICATION IF WE ARE TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN MILGPS IN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. WE WILL BE COMMUNICATING WITH POSTS AFTER THE CURRENT SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL IS PASSED TO GET YOUR VIEWS ON HOW OUR MILITARY PRESENCE IN LATIN AMERICA SHOULD BE

STRUCTURED AFTER FY 1977. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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